



County of San Diego

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMS PEDIATRIC TRAUMA PATIENT DESTINATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

County of San Diego EMS actively monitors the health of the 9-1-1 delivery system. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased demands on the county's entire healthcare continuum. In an effort to preserve critical healthcare resources in the county's acute-care hospitals, the County of San Diego EMS Medical Director has issued a temporary change in the identified pediatric trauma center patient definition.

All patients identified as Trauma Center Patients known, or appearing to be 14 to 18 years of age, SHALL BE included in the pediatric patient category (as defined in County EMS Policies [S-101](#), [T-460](#), [T-705](#), and [T-706](#)).

Effective immediately, Trauma Center Patients between the ages of 14-18 SHALL BE transported to the pediatric trauma center (Rady Children's Hospital San Diego).

This directive supersedes the memo dated December 21, 2020.

Thank you for the outstanding care you provide to our patients, day in and day out. We recognize and appreciate your dedication during the special conditions of this pandemic.

Respectfully,

Kristi L. Koenig, MD, FACEP, FIFEM, FAEMS, Medical Director
Emergency Medical Services
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cc: Nick Yphantides, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer
Andrew Parr, EMS Administrator